

Message Text

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73

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 ABF-01 /014 W

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R 062300Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7878

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 2536

DEPT FOR DASS; BANGKOK FOR GAO STAFFORD

FOLLOWING SENT HONG KONG APRIL 5 BEING REPEATED FOR YOUR
ACTION

QUOTE
FOR RSS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: GAO SURVEY/AUDIT

REF: HONG KONG 3588

THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE KEYED TO PARA 3 OF REFTEL:

(1) NONE.

(2) THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL POLICE FORCE FURNISHES A VEHICULAR
PATROL FOR FOREIGN EMBASSIES, WHICH ARE LOCATED RELATIVELY
CLOSE TO ONE ANOTHER IN CANBERRA, DURING THE HOURS 8:00 PM
TO 4:00 AM. THIS PATROL PASSES THE CHANCERY AND RESIDENCE
APPROXIMATELY SEVEN TIMES DURING ITS TOUR OF DUTY.

(3) THERE IS NO EXPLICIT ARRANGEMENT WITH THE HOST GOVERNMENT
AS TO THEIR RESPONSE IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY SITUATION.
THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA, HOWEVER, APPEARS QUITE AWARE OF
ITS RESPONSIBILITIES TO PROTECT OFFICIAL FOREIGN PERSONNEL
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AND PROPERTY. IT HAS ESTABLISHED, AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL, AN

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR COUNTER TERRORISM WHICH MEETS REGULARLY. THE COMMONWEALTH POLICE FORCE HAS ESTABLISHED A SMALL COUNTER TERRORISM SECTION WHICH HAS A MANAGERIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND CONDUCTS LIAISON WITH THE INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE. THIS FORCE ALSO IS DEVELOPING A REACTION CAPABILITY (NAMED TERRORIST NEUTRALIZATION TEAMS) AT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS WHICH ARE COMMONWEALTH PROPERTY AND THEREFORE UNDER THEIR JURISDICTION. THE STATE POLICE FORCES HAVE PERSONNEL TRAINED FOR "ARMED OFFENDERS SQUADS" WHICH THEY WOULD USE IN AN EMERGENCY SITUATION. THE PERSONNEL OF THESE SQUADS ARE ASSIGNED TO NORMAL POLICE FUNCTIONS UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THEY ARE NEEDED FOR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS. THEIR READINESS AND TRAINING VARY FROM STATE TO STATE.

(4) OVER THE YEARS, AUSTRALIAN POLICE FORCES OFTEN HAVE BEEN CALLED UPON TO PROTECT US PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY. THEY HAVE RESPONDED ABLY AND EFFICIENTLY. THE RECENT VISIT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT HAS BEEN THE MOST RECENT EXAMPLE OF THEIR ASSISTANCE.
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